## Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA), RSC Chairman Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), RSC Repeal Task Force Chairman

## Repeal the Renewable Fuel Standard

July 17, 2013

At a time when our economy is still struggling to recover, the last thing families and small businesses need are costly government policies that increase their gasoline and grocery bills. Yet, the federal government's artificial market for the ethanol industry does exactly that. It is past time to have a serious conversation about the federal government's role in supporting ethanol. That is why Representative Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) has introduced H.R. 1461, legislation to eliminate the Renewable Fuel Standard.

The EPA's Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) mandates that 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels be part of our nation's fuel supply by 2022. Currently, grain ethanol from corn fulfills this mandate. This year, over 40% of the U.S. corn crop is expected to be used for ethanol production. Diverting increasing quantities of food and feed stocks into fuel diminishes corn supplies for livestock and food producers. This results in higher prices being passed on to livestock and food producers, meaning consumers across the nation see those increases reflected in the price of food on grocery store shelves and in restaurants.

Renewable fuels play an important role in our all-of-the-above energy policy, but they should compete fairly in the marketplace and not be the beneficiary of an anti-competitive government mandate. The RFS is no longer just a debate about fuel or food. It is also a debate about jobs, small business, economic growth and freedom.

**H.R. 1461** eliminates the RFS and makes ethanol compete in a free market. This legislation would give relief to livestock and food producers as well as consumers of these products. American families and businesses should not have to shoulder the high cost of this unworkable federal ethanol mandate.

To cosponsor H.R. 1461 or for more information, please contact Carrie Meadows in Rep. Goodlatte's office at <a href="mailto:carrie.meadows@mail.house.gov">carrie.meadows@mail.house.gov</a> or 5-5431.

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